

THE DIAMOND DRILL.

C. M. ATKINSON,
Sole Editor and Proprietor.
SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1887.

PERSONAL GOSSIP.

Miss Ida Gibbs has taken up her residence at Menominee.

V. K. Moore, of Detroit, was here several days this week.

Dr. H. C. Kimball sports a new Masonic watch chain, bearing the figure "32."

Frank McKernon, of the Caledonia, spent several days of the week at his home at the falls.

Frank Scadden has returned from his trip to Grand Rapids, Bessemer, etc., and now Frank sports a beautiful diamond ring with a Masonic emblem.

Miss Zilpha Hollister went to Milwaukee this week where she will meet her mother returning from New York, and together they will visit Wisconsin friends.

Robert McCourt has been promoted and is now a conductor. Mr. McCourt has long filled the position of express messenger on the branch passenger, and is a true and faithful man.

Chas. E. Spencer, of Marquette, in the employ of Bail & Hanscomb, was here Thursday looking up matters relative to the forth coming suits brought by the lumber syndicates against the township officials. A very pleasant call is acknowledged.

BLACK HILLS LETTER.

The Diamond Drill's Dakota Correspondent Quite Outdoes Himself this week—The Great Undeveloped Resources of that Rich Spot Carefully and Plainly Depicted by a Conscientious Writer.

Editor THE DIAMOND DRILL,

DEAR SIR:—It is time that the attention of the world was called to this marvelous region officially, in the name of the territory. The building of the railroad to Rapid City, a thriving foot hills town, with assurance of extending the line further around and into the hills, and the building at an early day of other lines of railway, has now made it possible to direct general attention to this, the richest corner of the kingdom, an area of little more than 6,000 square miles, and yet a world in itself, possessing every variety of mineral and other resources, which as yet remain largely undiscovered to the world outside. There has been but little development to speak of, even of the gold mines, the few now in successful operation comprising but a small proportion of the valuable properties known to be in existence and awaiting development. The silver camps at Carbonate and Galena are not half prospected yet, and in spite of the temporary setback encountered this past season, are probably but now upon the eve of an excitement and activity, in the original production of wealth, that promises to rival Leadville. Smelting works for both camps have lately been purchased and will be ready for work as soon as the weather is settled. The out-put of gold and silver in 1885 amounted to \$3,300,000, as follows: Gold \$3,150,000, silver \$150,000. A large increase in production was predicted for the future, following the railroad. The tin discoveries are awakening greater interest and inquiry than the precious metals. Active operations are going on and the sure development of the tin mines of the Black Hills is beyond a doubt. The petroleum found in the west side of the hills is said to be fully equal to the best oil produced in Pennsylvania. A number of companies have been organized and wells are now being sunk by boring in the oil district, which comprises a considerable area in the western rim of the hills. In the same vicinity there is salt in abundance, which is already finding its way into market. There are mica mines awaiting development; there is asbestos in large quantities, and copper mines waiting for the future; besides zinc, salt-petre and nickel, now too cheap to be developed at their present disadvantage of location. The Black Hills has it greatest mine of wealth, perhaps, in the almost inexhaustible supplies of building materials, of all kinds, which is found on all hands. The magnificent hard pine lumber, the marble, sandstones, and other building stone of great beauty and durability, and the lime gypsum and brick clays which exist in these hills, would rebuild all the cities of the Mosonic age. The agricultural capabilities of the Black Hills are of the highest order. The valleys and parks lying within the hills contain the best of soil and the ranges of the hills afford a natural pasture for cattle and horses. The sublime scenery found among the peaks and pine clad hills, the curious formation in slate porphyry and limestone, and the natural parks, is another point of attraction, which to the tourist must before long constitute a leading and powerful charm, to be developed through the enterprise of railroads and the people most interested, into a prolific source of revenue. The Dakota hot springs, situated in the southern hills, in the extreme south-western part of the territory, are just about to come into the prominence they deserve. The railroad making them accessible by a twelve mile

ride by stage, and a fine hotel having been erected this past season for the accommodation of invalids and tourists. The waters of the principal springs have a temperature of 95°; are remarkable for the cures already effected by their use at the bath, and taken inwardly. Cases of rheumatism, and diseases of the blood and skin, which for years have baffled medical skill have been entirely cured within a few weeks by the simple use of these waters, unaided by any other medical treatment. As welcome as seemed and was the first railroad connection with the world, the fact remains, and becomes even more emphasized, that the thorough development of the Black Hills can never be successfully undertaken, and will never be accomplished, until this region is brought within the lines of settlement, population and commercial enterprise to be extended, westward from the Missouri river across the present barrier of the Indian reservation. The isolation of the Black Hills county from the rest of Dakota, no matter how many railroads might be built up from the south, would be fatal to its prospects, by reason of its anomalous position, being at the same time within and yet without the present territory to which it would appear to be attached, according to the map. It is of the highest consequence, not only to the citizens of the hills, but to the people of the territory in common, that as broad a path-way as possible for civilization's progress by rail should be opened through the vast uninhabited area held, not so much by as for the Sioux Indian nation. As for the Black Hills, however, the passage of any bill letting in the railroads and immigration through the Missouri river gateways of commerce and travel, cannot fail of early and splendid results.

Yours truly,
R. F. C.

TOWNSHIP BOARD.

[OFFICIAL.]

APRIL 19, 1887.—A special meeting of the town board was held in the clerk's office pursuant to a call of Supervisor Wm. Doucet. The following members present: Wm. Doucet and A. Lustfield, clerk. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Resignation of Oliver O. Welch, justice of the peace, as a member of the town board was read and accepted and the clerk instructed to notify Albert Austrian, justice of the peace, to serve on the board. Mr. Austrian having taken his seat, it was moved and seconded to appoint a committee of five tax payers to look up a suitable place for the town hall and report at 7 p. m., the 20th inst. Upon motion of Mr. Austrian the following gentlemen were appointed as such committee: J. H. Parks, Richard Dawson, J. B. Schwartz, H. McGilchey and Chas. S. Henry. Nothing else being before the board, we on motion adjourned until April 20th, 7 p. m.

A. LUSTFIELD, township clerk.

APRIL 20, 1887.—The adjourned meeting of the town board was held in the clerk's office at 7 p. m., with following members present: Wm. Doucet, Al. Austrian, and John Morrison. Report of committee on town hall site received and ordered put on file. The said committee recommended that the building known as the opera house, situated on the corner of Third street and Superior avenue and owned by Wm. Doucet, be purchased and used as a town hall, providing it can be purchased for \$2,800 and providing further that, said Wm. Doucet agrees to erect another opera house at a cost not less than \$5,000. Upon motion of Al. Austrian it was resolved to postpone any action of this board regarding the hall until April 23, 7 p. m. Proposition of C. M. Atkinson, publisher of THE DIAMOND DRILL, a newspaper issued in this town, to publish all minutes of proceedings of this town board as well as all legal notices for the sum of \$100 was upon motion of John Morrison accepted and ordered to be put on file. It was moved and seconded that C. M. Atkinson be allowed the sum of \$50 per annum for the publishing of all minutes of the proceedings of this board, said fee to be paid quarterly upon order issued by the clerk and counter-signed by the supervisor. Nothing else being before the board we upon motion adjourned until April 23, 7 p. m.

A. LUSTFIELD, township clerk.

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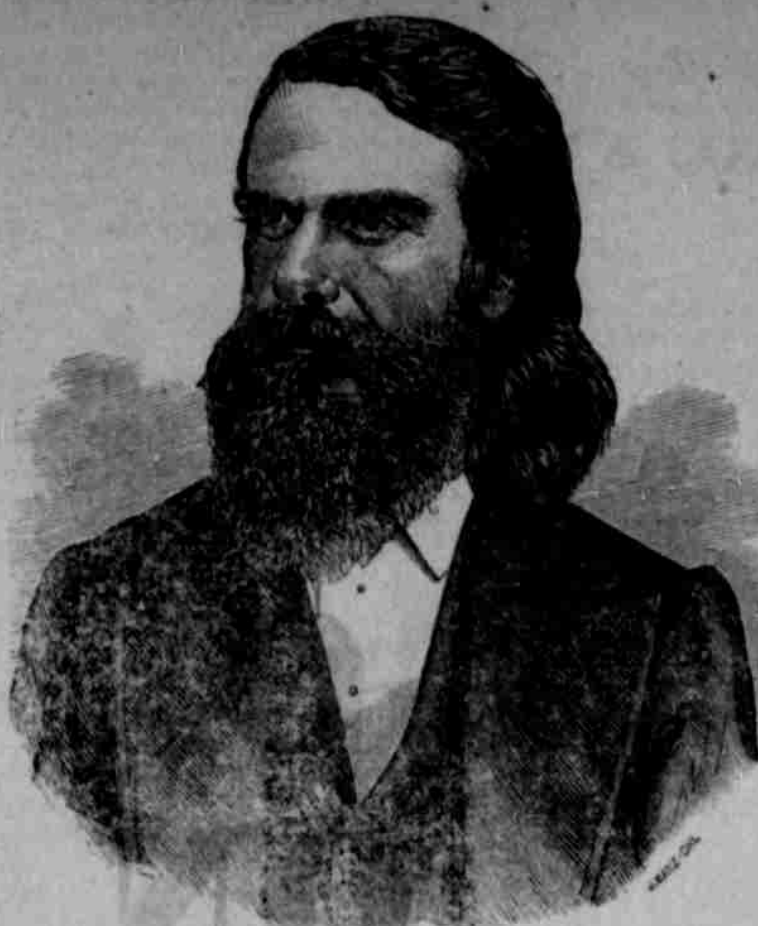
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